

Filner amendment to increase veteran's medical care by \$1.1 billion.

This amendment would designate these funds as emergency—making it possible to provide vital health care to hundreds of thousands of veterans without cutting any other essential programs.

This amendment is about national priorities—if the bill passes without this amendment, our veterans will truly find their lives, and their health, in real states of emergency. We must do what's right.

Our nation owes our veterans a tremendous debt. These courageous men and women sacrificed everything—whether in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, or the Gulf War—to ensure the freedom and opportunity that we so often take for granted. It is our responsibility to repay our veterans for the tremendous burdens that they bore and the sacrifices that they made to ensure peace and freedom for this country.

I urge my colleagues to fulfill our commitments to our veterans. Vote for \$1.1 billion in emergency funds for veterans' medical care. Vote for the Filner amendment. Do what is right.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent and unable to vote due to my recovery from heart surgery on August 5, 1999.

August 5, 1999:

I would have voted in favor of the Hall amendment to H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 380).

I would have voted against the Bass amendment to H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 381).

I would have voted in favor of the G. Miller amendment to H.R. 2760 (rollcall No. 382).

I would have voted against the Hayworth amendment to H.R. 2760 (rollcall No. 383).

I would have voted in favor of the Tausin amendment to H.R. 2760 (rollcall No. 384).

I would have voted against the Kucinich amendment to H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 385).

I would have voted in favor of the motion to recommit H.R. 2670 with instructions (rollcall No. 386).

I would have voted against passage of H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 387).

I would have voted against ordering the previous question for consideration of H.R. 2684 (rollcall No. 388).

I would have voted in favor of agreeing to the Conference Report on Legislative Branch Appropriations Act (rollcall No. 389).

TRIBUTE TO CAMP ARROWHEAD

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my colleague, Mr. IKE SKELTON, to pay tribute on the 75th anniversary of

the founding of the oldest continuously operating Boy Scout Camp west of the Mississippi River. Camp Arrowhead, located east of Marshfield, Missouri, was begun the summer of 1924, just 14 years after Scouting came to America and only 8 years after this body, the Congress of the United States, chartered the Boy Scouts of America.

I know my colleagues join with me in commending the vision of men like area Scout Executive Allen C. Foster, and organizations such as the Springfield Rotary Club, the Marshfield Merchants Club and the Commercial Club of Springfield which played key roles in the creation of this camp. I doubt those leaders in 1924 could envision microwave ovens, color televisions, the Internet, or jet aircraft, but they could envision a place where dedicated volunteers would help boys grow into young men with character and a commitment to community. And they knew how to translate their vision into reality.

Over 75 summers, tens of thousands of campers have carried out the traditions of Camp Arrowhead where boys developed into leaders, and adults returned to encourage other young scouts to grow as they had been encouraged by others. The impact of Camp Arrowhead is found in friendships, skills and character among a broad range of people in the Ozarks and around the world.

Camp Arrowhead as we see it today with 600 acres of facilities serving the needs of 1,500 scouts and adults each summer could not exist without the continued active support of Scouters and supporters of Scouting around the area. The countless hours of service and dedication by hundreds of volunteers each year ensure that this camp will continue its mission for years to come.

"Do Your Best" is more than just the Scout Motto. For those who have attended Camp Arrowhead, it is the moving force behind why they come as scouts, why they lead as adults, and why they serve as volunteers.

From the Seventh Congressional District and from this Congress, I offer this commendation to all of those involved for a job well done for the past 75 years with a heartfelt hope that their efforts will continue for at least another 75.

MARKING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COMMISSIONING OF THE "U.S.S. NAUTILUS"

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 45th Anniversary of a wonder of the modern world—the U.S.S. *Nautilus* (SSN571). The *Nautilus* was the world's first nuclear submarine and its creation revolutionized the Navy forever.

Tonight, in my district, citizens will gather by the *Nautilus*, moored now at the Submarine Force Museum in Groton, CT, to mark the 45th Anniversary of the commissioning of this magnificent ship. I am pleased to join them in this effort.

The story of the *Nautilus* actually begins much earlier than September 1954. Beginning

with the development of modern submarines in the early part of this century, the Navy had struggled with the problems of prolonged submersion of submarines. The idea of using nuclear power was revolutionary. It promised the ability to stay underwater almost indefinitely. Not only would duration underwater be dramatically increased, but the increase in power would mean that submarines would be able to travel at much higher speeds—up to 20 knots. This combination of factors would mean that submarines would be able to travel all the world's oceans.

When the Navy decided to go ahead with the project, it turned to the incomparable skills of the craftsmen and designers at Electric Boat. Following the keel laying in June 1952, these dedicated employees worked extraordinarily long hours and pushed themselves to complete their task. By January 1954, the *Nautilus* was completed, christened and prepared for testing at the shipyard. Finally, in September 1954, 45 years ago this month, the Navy commissioned its first nuclear submarine. The *Nautilus* made its mark by obliterating previous submarine records for speed, time and distance traveled while submerged. By the time of its first refueling, it had traveled over 62,000 miles. In 1957, it became the first submarine to travel below the polar ice caps. On August 3, 1958 the *Nautilus* made history as the first ship to reach the North Pole.

The *Nautilus* was the first of a long and prestigious line of nuclear submarines that have played a vital role in safeguarding our national security over the decades that followed. Ballistic missile submarines changed the face of strategic stability during the Cold War. Attack submarines kept fleets safe and our shipping secure. Specially modified submarines carried out critical intelligence and special operations missions. Now, we are on the verge of deploying the next generation of submarines, one that once again will be empowered with unprecedented capabilities.

Now I stand here, ten years after the Cold War, in the Capitol of the only superpower on Earth. The *Nautilus*, the ships that followed and the great Americans who built and sailed them have made this possible. On this anniversary, we honor more than a piece of machinery. We honor all that it represents ingenuity, hard work, courage and patriotism.

RECOGNITION OF THE ALEXANDER MACOMB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 9, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the March of Dimes 1999 Alexander Macomb Citizens of the Year. Beginning in 1984, a group of leading Macomb county citizens instituted the "Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year" award. The award was named after General Alexander Macomb, the county's namesake, who was a hero of the War of 1812, repelling a superior invading force at Lake Plattsburgh, NY, which kept the United States borders intact. Since the inception of